

## **EX PARTE**

Ms. Marlene Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Developing a Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime, CC Docket

No. 01-92; High-Cost Universal Service Support, WC Docket No. 05-337; Establishing Just and Reasonable Rates for Local Exchange Carriers, WC Docket No. 07-135; Connect America Fund, WC Docket No. 10-90; A National Broadband Plan for Our Future, GN Docket No. 09-51; Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45;

Lifeline and Link-Up, WC Docket No. 03-109

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On June 10, 2011, Eric Einhorn and Mike Rhoda (Windstream), Kathy Grillo (Verizon), Hank Hultquist (AT&T) and the undersigned met with Zachary Katz (Office of Chairman Genachowski), Sharon Gillett, Carol Mattey, Amy Bender (Wireline Competition Bureau) and Michael Steffen (Office of the General Counsel).

We discussed a potential framework for reforming universal service that would carefully transition to a new system under which support for the construction and operation of broadband networks in high-cost areas would be both explicit and matched to obligations within the budget of current high-cost funding programs. We emphasized that this approach would provide support in high-cost areas, some of which may be unserved today and some of which may be currently served due, at least in part, to legacy support mechanisms. Such a framework could increase the efficiency of support by calculating and distributing support on a more granular geographic basis than is typical of today's universal support programs and by distributing broadband support to only those high-cost areas where no unsupported company is providing adequate broadband service.

Pursuant to Commission rules, please include a copy of this filing in each of the above-referenced dockets.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Banks

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c: Zachary Katz Sharon Gillett Carol Mattey Amy Bender Michael Steffen